

***California
Commission on Teacher Credentialing***

***Meeting of
May 7-8, 2003***

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: **PREP -2**

COMMITTEE: **Preparation Standards**

TITLE: **Approval of Contract with the Sacramento County
Office of Education to Provide Service for the Troops to
Teachers Program in the State of California**

 X **Action**

 Information

 Report

Strategic Plan Goal(s):

- Goal 6:** **Provide leadership in exploring multiple, high quality routes to prepare professional educators for California's schools.**
- Work with education entities to expand the pool of qualified professional educators
 - Pursue avenues with other organizations in expanding the pool of qualified educators

Presented By: **Michael D. McKibbin**

Prepared By: _____ **Date:** _____
 Nadine Noelting
 Assistant Consultant, Professional Services Division

Prepared By: _____ **Date:** _____
 Michael D. McKibbin, Ed.D.
 Consultant, Professional Services Division

Approved By: _____ **Date:** _____
 Larry Birch, Ed.D.
 Administrator, Professional Services Division

Approved By: _____ **Date:** _____
 Beth Graybill
 Interim Director, Professional Services Division

Authorized By: _____ **Date:** _____
 Dr. Sam W. Swofford
 Executive Director

**Approval of Contract with the Sacramento County Office of Education to
Provide Service for the Troops to Teachers Program in the State of California**

Professional Services Division

May 7-8, 2003

Executive Summary

The federal Troops to Teachers program recruits former military personnel into teacher preparation programs with the goal of helping these individuals become a fully credentialed teacher. The California Commission On Teacher Credentialing has participated in the program since 1994 and has received over \$600,000 in federal funds to support the Troops to Teachers program. In 2001, the Commission began contracting with the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) to administer the program. SCOE was selected as the contractor because of its statewide responsibility for the California Teacher Recruitment Incentive Program (TRIP). This agenda item is to request the approval of a \$277,295 contract with SCOE to continue the administration of the Troops to Teachers program.

Fiscal Impact Summary

The contract with SCOE to support the Troops to Teachers program in California will be fully funded by a continuing grant from the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES), an agency in the U. S. Department of Defense (DOD).

Policy Issues to be Considered

Should SCOE continue to administer Troops to Teachers program for the State of California?

Recommendation

Staff recommends the approval of a contract for services with SCOE for \$277,295 to provide support for the federal Troops to Teachers program.

Approval of Contract with the Sacramento County Office of Education to Provide Service for the Troops to Teachers Program in the State of California

Professional Services Division

May 7-8, 2003

Background Information

The federal Troops to Teachers program recruits former military personnel into teacher preparation programs with the goal of helping these individuals become fully credentialed teachers. Through this program, many former military personnel are becoming successful teachers and leaders in California's public schools. The 2002 National Teacher of the Year, Chauncey Veatch, appeared before the Commission at the November 6, 2002 meeting. As former military personnel, he identified the many ways his training brought him success in the classroom and his support for the program. Nationally, California has the fourth highest recruitment of former service members into the teaching profession.

The Commission has participated in this program since 1994 when Governor Wilson authorized, by Executive Order, establishment of the California Aerospace and Defense Worker Corps (Corps). The Corps provided opportunities for mathematicians, scientists, and engineers who had been dislocated by defense cutbacks as well as those separating from the armed services to enter into the teaching profession.

In 1995, the California Military and Defense Worker Placement Assistance Program was established with grant funds from the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Support (DANTES), an U. S. Department of Defense (DOD) agency. The 1996 Budget Act authorized \$152,000 and two limited-term positions to operate the program. Commission records indicate that this program has been continuously funded since that time, although the limited-term positions have since been eliminated.

Troops to Teachers Program Status

With the elimination of the limited-term positions, the Commission looked to "contracting out" the services required by the federal grant. The Commission contracted with the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) to carryout the responsibilities during the 2001-02 fiscal year. SCOE was selected as the contractor because of its statewide responsibility for the California Teacher Recruitment Incentive Program (TRIP).

SCOE had already been contracted to provide services to San Diego, Imperial and Orange Counties, as well as to other counties by request. Due to the success of the recruitment efforts in the San Diego region, DANTES indicated an interest in expanding the current California state grant to allow for similar activities in Northern California. Federal funding has been increased, and this contract for \$277,295 will expand the services to the entire state. Because the contract is over \$100,000, Commission approval is required.

Commission staff will continue to provide technical assistance in the development and reporting on the project throughout the state, collaborates in the development of materials for the program, and assists in providing access to program-appropriate materials to promote collaboration throughout the state.

By entering into the agreement with the Commission, SCOE will be agreeing to:

- Provide services and support for the Troops to Teachers program, including staffing the statewide toll-free information number.
- Actively recruit eligible military personnel to enter teaching as a second career by conducting teaching as a second career briefings at military installations and participating in military job fairs.
- Provide counseling on teaching opportunities, certification requirements and certification routes.
- Provide placement services to assist eligible military personnel to gain employment as teachers.
- Market the Troops to Teachers program to the public education community.
- Support the National Troops to Teachers initiatives by participating in national education conferences and meetings.
- Provide financial reports on program expenditures.
- Provide regular program activity reports.

Recommendation

SCOE has successfully demonstrated its ability to administer the Troops to Teachers program in the San Diego area. They have been working closely with the Commission and DANTES to identify statewide needs and meet required goals. By contracting for \$277,295 with SCOE, the Commission can continue to provide statewide support for a national program that assists military personnel in transitioning to the teaching profession.